

## **LCRD Optical Ground Station 1**

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# Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD)

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- Optical Ground Station 1 (OGS1) is being developed to support the LCRD project
- Capable of sustained bi-directional communications
  - Up to 1.24 Gbps DPSK
  - Up to 311 Mbps PPM
- LCRD Objectives
  - Demonstrate bi-directional optical communications
  - Characterize system performance over a variety of conditions
  - Transfer optical communication technology to industry
  - Support, test and demonstrate optical communication standards
  - Demonstrate extensive multi-user networking
  - Demonstrate effectiveness of adaptive optics for communication links



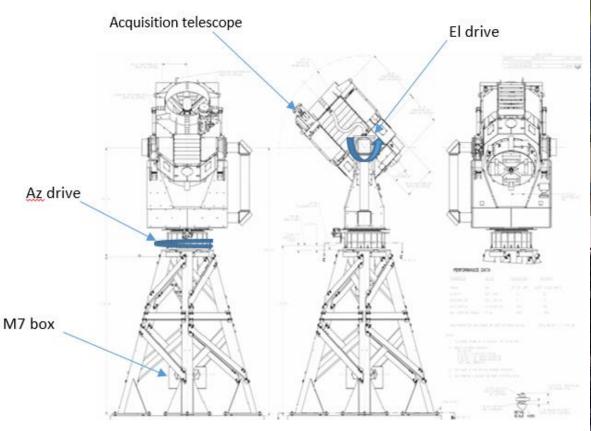


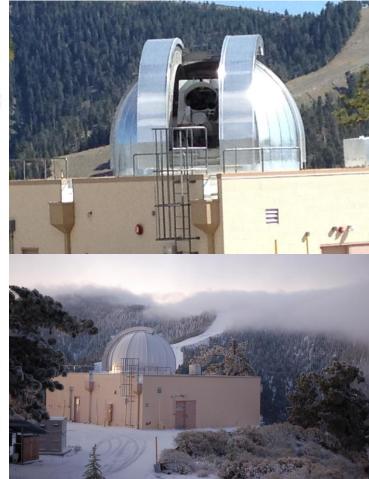
## **OCTL Telescope**

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- 1-meter F/76 telescope in coudé configuration
- Fast-slewing El over Az mount for satellite tracking
- 4 coudé ports allow concurrent experiments

Designed for daytime operations

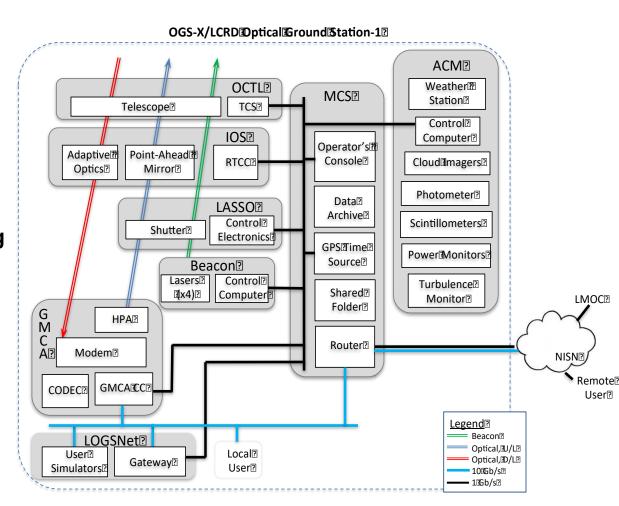




## **OGS1 System**

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- Telescope for signal collection and transmission
- Adaptive Optics for efficient signal collection
- Laser safety system
- Multiple beacons for acquisition by spacecraft
- Ground modem for signal retrieval and signal encoding
- Networking gateway for controlling services
- User simulators for evaluating system performance
- Atmospheric monitoring system to understand the Optical Channel
- Monitor and control system for control and coordination

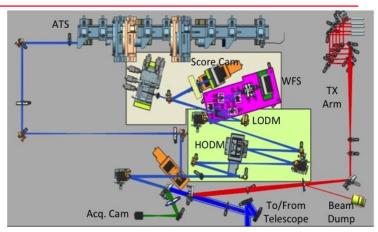




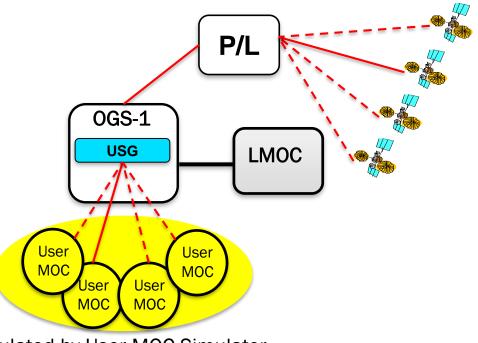
#### **Unique Features of OGS-1**

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- Fast Adaptive Optical system
  - Two deformable mirrors to compensate for large stroke and high spatial frequency
  - 10 kHz wavefront sensor
  - Scoring camera for evaluation of corrected Strehl ratio



- High bandwidth networking services
  - Up to 12 simultaneous users connecting through User Services Gateway
  - Four service types
    - SymbolStream
    - BitStream
    - AOS
    - Tunnelled IP
  - Supports virtual channels
  - Supports simultaneous guest users
  - High bandwidth platform and MOC simulators
  - Schedule-driven services



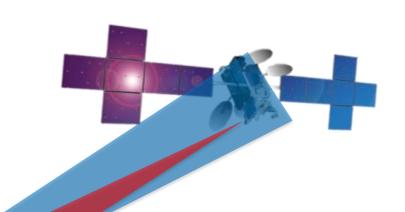
Simulated by User MOC Simulator

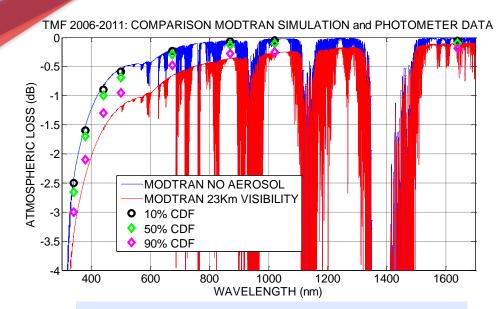


#### **OGS-1 Loop-Back Link**

- Loop-back link is best measure of ground station performance
- Calculation of LCRD Link:
  - Calculate uplink/downlink operating points
    - · Photons/bit at receivers
  - Evaluate signal fade statistics
  - Calculate edge-to-edge curves
  - Evaluate uplink/downlink margins







**Atmospheric Transmission at OGS-1** 

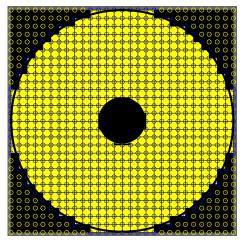


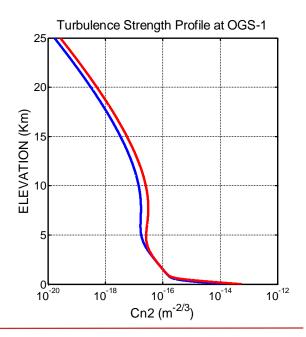
## **OGS-1 Wave Optics Simulation**

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- We use a wave-optics simulation to determine fading statistics on uplink/downlink beams
- We use nominal and worst case conditions in the simulation
  - Hufnagel-Valley profile with ground layer at OGS-1
  - 5-layer atmosphere assumed
  - Turbulence conditions at 500 nm at zenith
    - Nominal case  $r_0$ =5.2 cm
    - Worst case r<sub>0</sub>=2.7 cm
  - Uplink beam divergence:  $\theta$ =20 μrad full-angle
  - Wind speed of 2.84 m/sec (nominal)
    - 5.6 m/sec (worst case)
  - Beam elevation angle from OGS-1 of 45 degrees
- OGS-1 AO modeled as 28x28 sub-apertures
  - Wavefront sensor update rate of 10 kHz
- Simulation results
  - Time series of uplink signal at flight terminal
  - Time series of downlink signal corrected by AO coupled to the Ground Modem single-mode fiber

**OGS-1 Sub-Aperture Geometry** 

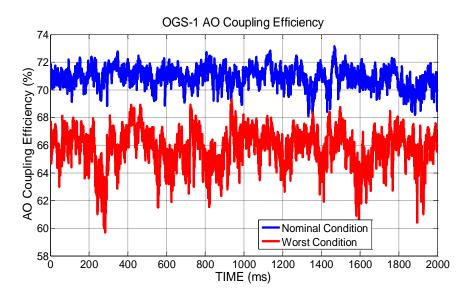


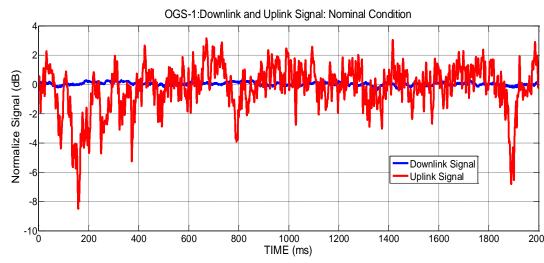




### **OGS-1 Loop Back Results**

- Our Adaptive Optics is expected to couple 70% of the downlink signal into the Modem SMF under nominal conditions
  - 65% coupling efficiency or better 90% of links
  - Minimum 55% coupling required
- Downlink fading is averaged over large (1-m) aperture
  - □  $\sigma_i^2 = 7 \times 10^{-4}$  under nominal conditions
- Uplink fades are much worse
  - $\Box$   $\sigma_i^2 = 0.09$  under nominal conditions
  - □  $\sigma_i^2$  = 0.29 under worst-case (90%) conditions
- Time series from wave-optics simulation are shown
  - Used to derived edge-to-edge curves
    - PPM
    - DPSK



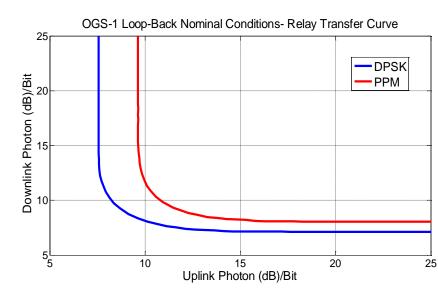


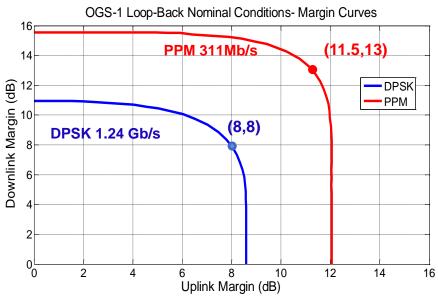


### **OGS-1 Loop Back Link Margin**

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- The relay transfer curves represent the locus of points at up/down receivers where the margin is 0 dB for given photon/bit flux
  - Lower photon flux at one end may be compensated by higher flux at other end
  - Included up/down fading statistics
  - Interleaver of 0.87 sec
  - DVB-S2 coding, code rate R=0.5
  - Required code word error rate 10<sup>-4</sup>
- DPSK more efficient than PPM
- Margins derived from relay transfer curve
  - Based on operating point
    - 10 W uplink transmit power
    - 0.5 W downlink transmit power
- Lower data rate of PPM provides more margin
- OGS-1 expected to have plenty of operating margin for DPSK and PPM links under nominal conditions







# **OGS-1 Loop Back Summary**

- OGS1 is in development to support LCRD
  - Characterizes performance over range of atmospheric conditions
  - Supports high-bandwidth networking services
- Supports different signaling modulations
  - DPSK to demonstrate high-bandwidth links
  - PPM to demonstrate deep-space networking links
- Loop-back demonstration characterizes ground station performance
  - Wave optics simulation to calculate fade statistics
    - Incorporates predicted performance of AO System
    - Incorporates site-specific conditions
- Maximum rate links predicted to have range of viable operating points under nominal conditions
  - ~ 8 dB of symmetrical DPSK margin
  - ~12 dB of PPM margin
- We anticipate excellent performance of OGS-1 with LCRD

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Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology

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